

Name: Christine Humphreys

Attribute this submission to: Christine Humphreys

Organization (if applicable): No organization

Title of Hearing: **Hearing on Responding to Long-Term Unemployment**

My name is Christine Humphreys. I have been unemployed since January 2008. I was an Email Administrator that was laid off due to budget cuts. I have been looking for a job consistently for the past two and a half years. I have applied to everything under the sun, including minimum wage jobs. I either never hear back from them, am told I am over qualified, or am questioned about why I have been unemployed so long.

We are about to lose our only working car as we can no longer afford the monthly payments and insurance. We have run up credit card debt we can no longer pay. We are planning on filing for bankruptcy as soon as we can come up with the \$2,000 needed to hire a lawyer. It is ironic. We are too poor to even file for bankruptcy! We are also worried about finding employment with our terrible credit rating.

We have a two year old son that we are struggling to feed and keep a roof over his head. We are drowning in debt and see no way out. It is humiliating to have to ask family members for money. Yet we have had to do so since the unemployment ran out. I have trouble sleeping at night and have started taking anti-depressants just to make it through the day.

It makes me so angry when I read stories about how us lazy unemployed folks are just sitting on the couch and watching TV while we collect our checks from the government. I would give just about anything to be out of this terrible situation and have a decent standard of living again. I am also so fed up with all of the government bailout of banks, the auto industry and now Europe. Yet our own government can't seem to help out a tax paying American who is just asking for a measly \$450 a week to survive. Please help us!